

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A planter receptacle adapted to be mounted to a railing, comprising:
 - 2 a front wall;
 - 3 a back wall;
 - 4 first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein
 - 5 a. said front wall is connected to said first and second side walls; and
 - 6 b. said back wall is connected to said first and second side walls, forming an
 - 7 enclosure with said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second
 - 8 spaced-apart side walls; and
 - 9 . means for mounting said planter receptacle to at least one baluster of said railing, wherein
 - 10 said mounting means at least partially surrounds at least one baluster.
- 1 2. The planter receptacle of claim 1, wherein said mounting means comprises at least one
- 2 sleeve attached to at least one wall of said planter receptacle.
- 1 3. The planter receptacle of claim 2, further comprising:
 - 2 a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said
 - 3 enclosure formed by said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side
 - 4 walls.
- 1 4. The planter receptacle of claim 1, wherein said mounting means comprises:
 - 2 at least a first interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls
 - 3 between said front wall and said back wall, creating

4 a first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion of
5 said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and
6 a second enclosure formed by said first interior wall, said back wall, and a portion
7 of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein
8 said first interior wall, said back wall, and said portion of said first and second spaced-
9 apart side walls at least partially surround at least one baluster of said railing when said planter
10 receptacle is mounted to said railing.

1 5. The planter receptacle of claim 4, wherein said first interior wall is substantially parallel
2 to said back wall.

1 6. The planter receptacle of claim 4, further comprising:
2 a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said
3 first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion of said first and
4 second spaced-apart side walls.

1 7. The planter receptacle of claim 4, further comprising:
2 a second interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls between
3 said first interior wall and said back wall, dividing said second enclosure, creating
4 a third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a
5 portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and
6 an enclosure formed by said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and a
7 portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

8 said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and said portion of said first and second
9 spaced-apart side walls at least partially surround at least one baluster of said railing when said
10 planter receptacle is mounted to said railing.

1 8. The planter receptacle of claim 7, wherein said second interior wall is substantially
2 parallel to said first interior wall.

1 9. The planter receptacle of claim 7, further comprising:
2 a first bottom wall, wherein said first bottom wall forms at least a portion of the
3 underside of said first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion
4 of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

1 10. The planter receptacle of claim 9, further comprising:
2 a second bottom wall, wherein said second bottom wall forms at least a portion of the
3 underside of said third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a
4 portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

1 11. The planter receptacle of claim 1, further comprising connecting means attached to at
2 least one of said walls.

1 12. The planter receptacle of claim 11, wherein said connecting means is vertically
2 adjustable.

1 13. The planter receptacle of claim 11, further comprising hanging means.

1 14. The planter receptacle of claim 13, wherein said hanging means is selected from the
2 group consisting of:

3 chain;
4 cable;
5 rope;
6 wire; and
7 readily bendable line.

1 15. The planter receptacle of claim 13, wherein said hanging means is attached to said
2 railing.

1 16. The planter receptacle of claim 13, wherein said hanging means enables said planter
2 receptacle to be positioned at a variable height with respect to said railing.

1 17. The combination of a railing and a planter receptacle, said railing comprising a top rail
2 and at least one baluster, said planter receptacle comprising:

3 a front wall;
4 a back wall;
5 first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

6 a. said front wall is connected to said first and second side walls; and
7 b. said back wall is connected to said first and second side walls, forming an
8 enclosure with said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second
9 spaced-apart side walls; and

10 means for mounting said planter receptacle to said at least one baluster of said railing,
11 wherein said mounting means at least partially surrounds at least one baluster.

1 18. The combination of claim 17, wherein said mounting means comprises at least one sleeve
2 attached to at least one wall of said planter receptacle.

1 19. The combination of claim 18, further comprising:

2 a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said
3 enclosure formed by said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side
4 walls.

1 20. The combination of claim 17, wherein said mounting means comprises:

2 at least a first interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls
3 between said front wall and said back wall, creating

4 a first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion of
5 said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and

6 a second enclosure formed by said first interior wall, said back wall, and a portion
7 of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

8 said first interior wall, said back wall, and said portion of said first and second spaced-
9 apart side walls at least partially surround at least one baluster of said railing when said planter
10 receptacle is mounted to said railing.

1 21. The combination of claim 20, wherein said first interior wall is substantially parallel to
2 said back wall.

1 22. The combination of claim 20, further comprising:
2 a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said
3 first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion of said first and
4 second spaced-apart side walls.

1 23. The combination of claim 20, further comprising:
2 a second interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls between
3 said first interior wall and said back wall, dividing said second enclosure, creating
4 a third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a
5 portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and
6 an enclosure formed by said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and a
7 portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein
8 said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and said portion of said first and second
9 spaced-apart side walls at least partially surround at least one baluster of said railing when said
10 planter receptacle is mounted to said railing.

1 24. The combination of claim 23, wherein said second interior wall is substantially parallel to
2 said first interior wall.

1 25. The combination of claim 23, further comprising:
2 a first bottom wall, wherein said first bottom wall forms at least a portion of the
3 underside of said first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion
4 of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

- 1 26. The combination of claim 25, further comprising:
2 a second bottom wall, wherein said second bottom wall forms at least a portion of the
3 underside of said third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a
4 portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.
- 1 27. The combination of claim 17, further comprising connecting means attached to at least
2 one of said walls.
- 1 28. The combination of claim 27, wherein said connecting means is vertically adjustable.
- 1 29. The combination of claim 27, further comprising hanging means.
- 1 30. The combination of claim 29, wherein said hanging means is selected from the group
2 consisting of:
3 chain;
4 cable;
5 rope;
6 wire; and
7 readily bendable line.
- 1 31. The combination of claim 29, wherein said hanging means is connected to said railing.
- 1 32. The combination of claim 31, said railing further comprising a rail cap, wherein said
2 hanging means is connected to said rail cap.
- 1 33. The combination of claim 29, wherein said hanging means enables said planter receptacle
2 to be positioned at a variable height with respect to said railing.

1 34. A method for mounting a planter receptacle on a railing, said railing comprising a top rail
2 and at least one baluster, said method comprising the steps of:

3 1) providing a planter receptacle comprising:

4 a front wall;

5 a back wall;

6 first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

7 a. said front wall is connected to said first and second side walls; and

8 b. said back wall is connected to said first and second side walls, forming

9 an enclosure with said front wall, said back wall, and said first and

10 second spaced-apart side walls; and

11 mounting means;

12 2) suspending said planter receptacle from said railing; and

13 3) mounting said planter receptacle to said at least one baluster of said railing,

14 wherein said mounting means at least partially surrounds at least one baluster.

1 35. The method of claim 34, wherein said step of suspending said planter receptacle from
2 said railing further comprises the steps of:

3 2a) connecting a first end of a hanging means to said top rail; and

4 2b) connecting a second end of said hanging means to said planter receptacle, wherein

5 said hanging means enables said planter receptacle to be positioned at a variable height with

6 respect to said railing.

1 36. The method of claim 35, said planter receptacle further comprising:
2 connecting means attached to at least one of said walls, wherein said connecting means is
3 vertically adjustable to enable said planter receptacle to be leveled.

1 37. The method of claim 35, wherein said hanging means is selected from the group
2 consisting of:
3 chain;
4 cable;
5 rope;
6 wire; and
7 readily bendable line.

1 38. The method of claim 34, said planter receptacle further comprising:
2 a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said
3 enclosure formed by said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side
4 walls.

1 39. The method of claim 34, wherein said mounting means is not attached to said at least one
2 baluster.